

CLAIMS

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A method for allowing a stand-by server to take over support for communications from a main server, comprising:
 - detecting lack of a signal initiated by a main server, wherein reception of said signal is indicative of availability of said main server;
 - establishing a connection with at least one client connection device;
 - requesting current call state information from said client connection device;
 - receiving current call state information from said client connection device; and
 - updating a call state information resource based on said current call state information received from said client connection device.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - receiving configuration information.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said establishing a connection with at least one client connection device includes establishing a connection with said client connection device using an IP address known to said client connection device.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said requesting current call state information from said client connection device includes requesting information from said client connection device regarding status of at least one communication line supported by said client connection device.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said receiving current call state information from said client connection device includes receiving information regarding status of at least one communication line supported by said client connection device.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

prior to said detecting lack of a signal initiated by said main server,
receiving at least one signal initiated by said main server, said at least one
signal being indicative of availability of said main server.

5 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

requesting information regarding availability of said main server after
said detecting lack of a signal initiated by said main server indicative of
availability of said main server.

10 8. A method for allowing a client connection device to switch between a main
server and a stand-by server, comprising:

conducting a call via a connection with a main server;
dropping said connection to said main server;
establishing a connection with a stand-by server to support said call;
receiving a request for call state information from said stand-by server;
providing current call state information to said stand-by server; and
conducting said call via said connection with said stand-by server.

15 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said dropping said connection to said main
server includes maintaining said call while dropping said connection to said main
server.

20 10. The method of claim 8, further comprising:
detecting lack of a signal sent initiated by a main server, wherein reception of said
signal is indicative of availability of said main server.

25 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:

prior to said detecting lack of a signal initiated by said main server,
receiving at least one signal initiated by said main server, said at least one
signal being indicative of availability of said main server.

30 12. The method of claim 8, wherein said establishing a connection with a stand-by
server to support said call includes maintaining said call.

13. A method for allowing a stand-by server to take over support for communications from a main server, comprising:

- detecting lack of a signal sent initiated by a main server, wherein reception of said signal is indicative of availability of said main server;
- 5 establishing a connection with at least one client connection device;
- requesting that said client connection device reset an active call to a designated call state; and

creating a call state information resource based, at least in part, on said designated call state.

10 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising:
 receiving configuration information.

15 15. The method of claim 13, further comprising:
 prior to said detecting lack of a signal initiated by said main server,
 receiving at least one signal initiated by said main server, said at least one
 signal being indicative of availability of said main server.

20 16. The method of claim 13, further comprising:
 requesting information regarding availability of said main server after
 said detecting lack of a signal initiated by said main server indicative of
 availability of said main server.

25 17. A method for allowing a client connection device to switch between a main
server and a stand-by server, comprising:
 conducting a call via a connection with a main server;
 dropping said connection to said main server;
 establishing a connection with a stand-by server to support said call;
 receiving a request initiated by said stand-by server to reset said call to
30 a designated call state; and
 resetting said call to said designated call state.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein said dropping said connection to said main server includes maintaining said call while dropping said connection to said main server.

19. The method of claim 17, further comprising:
detecting lack of a signal initiated by a main server, wherein reception of said signal is indicative of availability of said main server.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising:

prior to said detecting lack of a signal initiated by said main server,
receiving at least one signal initiated by said main server, said at least one
signal being indicative of availability of said main server.

21. The method of claim 17, establishing a connection with a stand-by server to
support said call includes receiving a signal from said stand-by server, said
signal using a known IP address.

22. The method of claim 17, wherein said establishing a connection with a stand-
by server to support said call includes maintaining said call.

23. A method for allowing a stand-by server to take over support for
communications from a main server, comprising:

a main server establishing at least one connection with at least one
client connection device for support of at least one call;

said main server providing at least one signal to a stand-by server
when said main server is available;

said stand-by server establishing at least one connection with said at
least one client connection device when said stand-by server does not receive
a designated number of signals from said main server indicative of availability
of said main server;

said stand-by server requesting call state information from said at least
one client connection device; and

said stand-by server updating a call state information resource based on said call state information received from said at least one client connection device.

24. A method for allowing a stand-by server to take over support for communications from a main server, comprising:

a main server establishing at least one connection with at least one client connection device for support of at least one call;

said main server providing at least one signal to a stand-by server when said main server is available;

said stand-by server establishing at least one connection with said at least one client connection device when said stand-by server does not receive a designated number of signals from said main server indicative of availability of said main server;

said stand-by server requesting said at least one client connection device to reset to a designated call state; and

said stand-by server creating a call state information resource based, at least in part, on said designated call state.

25. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for facilitating communications, comprising:

first instructions for directing a first server to establish at least one connection with at least one client connection device for support of at least one call;

second instructions for directing said first server to initiate at least one signal sent to a second server when said first server is available, said signal being indicative of availability of said first server to support said at least one call;

third instructions for directing said second server to establish at least one connection with said at least one client connection device when said second server does not receive a designated number of signals initiated by said first server indicative of availability of said first server;

fourth instructions for directing said second server to request call state information from said at least one client connection device; and

fifth instructions for directing said second server to update a call state information resource based on said call state information received from said at least one client connection device.

26. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for facilitating communications, comprising:

first instructions for directing a first server to establish at least one connection with at least one client connection device for support of at least one call;

second instructions for directing said first server to initiate at least one signal sent to a second server when said first server is available, said signal being indicative of said first server being available to support said at least one call;

third instructions for directing said second server to establish at least one connection with said at least one client connection device when said second server does not receive a designated number of signals initiated by said first server indicative of availability of said first server;

fourth instructions for directing said second server to request said at least one client connection device to reset to a designated call state; and

fifth instructions for directing said second server to create a call state information resource based, at least in part, on said designated call state.